Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education during 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, which did not fulfil the area requirements within the Union Territory of Delhi and outside Delhi but falling within the NCR, indicating how far the area requirements were relaxed in each case and on what grounds ; and

(b) the number and details of applications pending with the Board seeking affiliation, with lesser area relaxations than those to whom affiliation had been granted with highest area relaxations and the reasons for not granting them affiliation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA] : (a) As per information furnished by the CBSE, no school located in U.T. of Delhi possessing inadequate land was granted affiliation during the period from 1998-99 to 2001-2002. As per Affiliation Bye-laws of the Board, the schools outside Delhi falling within the NCR, are required to possess about 2 acres of land. 86 schools were granted affiliation within NCR during this period which include three schools namely Shardha International School, Gurgaon, Haryana with 1.75 acres of land, St. Thomas School, Bahadurgarh, Haryana with 1.68 acres of land and Sant Nirankari Public School, Faridabad, Haryana with 1.68 acres of land. The Board has informed that the above mentioned three schools fulfilled all other essential conditions prescribed in the Affiliation Bye-Laws. There was no relaxation in case of other schools.

(b) There are no such cases pending with the Board for grant of affiliation in so far as schools located in U.T. of Delhi and outside Delhi falling within the National Capital Region are concerned.

Reshaping Courses of Management and Bio-Technology

240. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is preparing policy framework to reshape engineering and technology post-graduate education and research:

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) by when it would be announced;

(d) the criteria to be followed to discontinue and/or restructure such courses, the specific of newly emerging areas of study identified for inclusion in the new programmes;

(e) whether UGC and other engineering and technology higher bodies/ institutes are being consulted; if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(f) whether management studies, bio-technology, course are also being reshaped, to suit society's requirements, if so, the details thereof ; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (f) With a view to providing necessary direction to the technical education system in the country towards promotion of Postgraduate Education and Research in Engineering and Technology, in December 2001, the Ministry has announced a Policy Framework, on consideration of the Report of the Committee constituted by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and on consultation with the academic community at large, UGC, etc. The Policy Framework provides for increasing the duration of M. Tech. Programmes from 18 to 24 months; raising the scholarship amount (from Rs.2500 to Rs. 5000 per month for M. Tech. Programmes, from Rs.6000 to Rs.7000 per month for M. Tech. holders and Rs.6000 per month for B. Tech/M.Sc. holders with increment of Rs. 500 per annum for Doctoral Programmes); increasing the out-turn of Postgraduate students/Ph. D. holders; extensive use of IT based distance education; periodic phasing out of outdated Postgraduate Programmes ; encouraging accreditation of courses; promotion of industrial participation and introduction of technology entrepreneur; introduction of national fellowships to scholars pursuing Doctoral Programmes ; expansion/strengthening of Early Faculty Induction Programme; commencement of Sequential Summer School Programmes, expansion/ strengthening of Quality Improvement Programme, etc. With regard to phasing out of outdated Postgraduate Programmes, it is indicated in the Policy Framework that, if the average out-turn for three years is less than 40% of the sanctioned strength, the programme should be discontinued or completely restructured. A total number of 35 new and emerging areas have been identified and form part of the Policy Framework. Biotechnology courses are also covered

under the Framework. As the Policy Framework announced is in respect of Engineering & Technology only, Management studies are not included.

Committee to change schools syllabus

241. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to change the existing syllabus of the schools education; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have appointed any Committee to study the changes in the existing syllabus; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir. The new syllabi for all subjects at all the stages of school education have been framed in accordance with the National Curriculum Framework for School Education—2000. These are intended to respond to the contemporary educational concerns and issues within the over all spirit of the National Policy on Education 1986. The new syllabi of the NCERT address the general concern for academic load reduction. The syllabi in all subject areas at all levels have been so designed that these may remove all kinds of social, cultural, religious, linguistic, regional and sex biases, ensure justice, tolerance and equity and unite all the section of Indian people.

(b) and (c) The NCERT formed a number of Committee of advisers, subject experts, internal faculty members and practicing school teacher to very carefull frame new syllabus and study them in relation to all the changes.

Curtailing the summer vacation of schools

242. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to curtail summer vacations of school children from the next year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a proper study has been made by Government in this regard; and